

**Public Transportation and Bicycle Committee Minutes
July 13, 2010**

Attendance: Richard Fein, Karen Kowles, Peter Lillya, Fran VanTreese, Guilford Mooring (Superintendent of Public Works-Town of Amherst), Lynn Grabowski, Walter Wolnik (guest), David Ziomek (Conservation Director, Town of Amherst)

Meeting came to order at 4:15 pm, Town Room, Town Hall

Minutes for the meetings of 5/18/10 and 6/15/10 were approved.

Road construction plans:

Plans for Sand Hill Rd reconstruction were discussed. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the bus stop and crosswalk design at the Pine St. intersection.

At the Aug meeting plans for pedestrian and bicycle improvement at Wildwood School and Reconstruction of the Big Y intersection on University Drive will be reviewed.

Mass Legislature motor vehicle speed bill: A bill to limit speeds in unposted zones of urban areas to 25 mph earned the approval of the Committee. The Committee voted unanimously to authorize Lynn Grabowski to draft a letter from the Committee to Rep. Storey and Sen. Rosenberg supporting the bill and stating the sense of the Committee that towns need greater flexibility to set lower speed limits for currently posted zones.

The Committee discussed recently released **plans for widening the Norwottuck Rail Trail** focusing on the Amherst section. There was general agreement that the project is over-engineered, an elaborate and expensive solution to a problem that would be better addressed in a more modest way. The comment period is short, ending on 23 July. The Committee voted unanimously to authorize Richard Fein to draft a letter to MEPA expressing the Committee's opinion.

A North Amherst bike path That would use the route of the UMass cinder path to the North Village apartment and continue to Meadow St. behind the private apartment developments was discussed with David Ziomek. The Committee supports this part and will discuss how to get it underway at our Aug 17th meeting. We will invite David Ziomek and UMass facilities planner, Niels La Cour, to join us.

Next meeting 4 pm Aug 17, 2010

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Lillya